

The Director of Central Intelligence

Approved For Release 2004/04/01 : CIA-RDP80M00165A000700070025-4

Washington D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-2786/4

OLC 77-4876/a

14 DEC 1977

Honorable Edward P. Boland, Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to confirm in writing the substance of our conversation of 29 November and my appearance before your Committee on 30 November on the guidelines developed by the Committee to meet its legislative obligations as set forth in your 9 November letter.

I am fully committed to serve the legislative needs of your Committee.

The Committee's interest as expressed in your 9 November letter falls into three areas: covert actions, sensitive intelligence collection operations, and intelligence agreements:

a. Covert Action - The fact of a Presidential finding under the Hughes/Ryan amendment, including the general purpose, country and expenditure involved, will be reported, as requested by the Committee, to yourself and the Committee's Staff Director, Thomas K. Latimer, as soon as practicable after notice of the President's approval has been received by CIA. A more detailed scope and description report will be provided at the Committee's convenience.

b. Sensitive Intelligence Collection - I believe that the briefing of the Committee, now scheduled for 15 December, will provide a comprehensive insight into the categories of collection operations and will constitute a good first step in refining what further information is needed by the Committee to fulfill its legislative oversight obligations.

c. Intelligence Agreements - All agreements reportable under the Case/Zablocki Act will be provided to the Committee. I propose that the Committee receive a comprehensive briefing on the topic of relationships with foreign intelligence services, with particular emphasis on any arrangements involving commitments on behalf of the United States Government. I am hopeful we can cover most of this matter during the briefing scheduled for 15 December. Again, I see this as a first step in refining what information is needed by the Committee in meeting its legislative obligations.

Periodic Reporting - Quarterly reports on the subjects covered above can be provided to the Committee, although the Committee may determine that reports at less frequent intervals would equally serve its purpose.

I am pleased to respond to the Committee's constructive and understandable efforts to establish guidelines for the review of sensitive intelligence programs in fulfillment of the Committee's legislative obligations. I will look forward to further refinement of these procedures as time passes and assure you of my fullest commitment to support an effective program of legislative oversight in the intelligence field.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

cc: Dr. Zbigniew K. Brzezinski
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

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